

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 106002
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 106002

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TPHY, OSCI, TBIO, SF

SUBJECT: NOMINEES FOR NIH POST DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

REF: PRETORIA 1536

1. DEPT AND NIH/FOGARTY CENTER ARE REVIEWING
AGAIN POSITION RE SOUTH AFRICAN PARTICIPATION IN
INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM. SINCE
SOUTH AFRICA NOT EXCLUDED FROM SUBMITTING NOMINA-
TIONS LAST FALL AND BOTH CANDIDATES (BECKER AND
SCHOUB) HAVE NOW BEEN SELECTED (BUT NOT YET NOTIFIED)
FOR FELLOWSHIPS IN FINAL COMPETITION ON SCIENTIFIC
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MERIT, DEPARTMENT WILL AUTHORIZE NIH TO PROCEED WITH
THESE AWARDS. THEREAFTER WE WOULD PROPOSE TO SUSPEND
SOUTH AFRICAN PARTICIPATION UNTIL RESOLUTION OF ISSUE.
WITHHOLDING AWARDS FOR TIME LIKELY TO BE REQUIRED TO
REACH JUDGMENT ON BROADER DISCRIMINATION ISSUE WOULD
BE UNFAIR TO INDIVIDUALS CONCERNED.

2. NIH OFFICIALS ARE CONSIDERING SENDING STAFF MEMBER
TO SOUTH AFRICA WHO, ALONG WITH EMBASSY, WOULD EXAMINE

WAYS TO CIRCULATE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROGRAM
MORE WIDELY AND REVIEW SELECTION PROCESS WITH
SOUTH AFRICAN MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL. IN
ABSENCE OF FIRM UNDERSTANDING BY COUNCIL TO TAKE ANY
SPECIFIC STEPS WHICH MAY BE NEEDED TO OVERCOME
DISCRIMINATION, FURTHER COOPERATION WOULD NOT BE
CONTEMPLATED.

CHRISTOPHER

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